

**Request for Information (RFI) DARPA-SN-09-06:  
Self-regenerative Systems Demonstration and Validation (SRS Dem/Val)**

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Information Processing Techniques Office (IPTO) is requesting information from vendors who have developer's access to high value, hard real time, mission critical, military information systems of record. Respondents should have experience in leading or participating in an innovative design and integration project with these systems. The goal of any potential SRS system design and integration effort is to explore the technical feasibility of dramatically improving system survivability and reliability with technology and techniques that DARPA has recently developed under the Self Regenerative Systems (SRS) program.

DARPA invites white paper responses from all qualified vendors interested in participating in this RFI. However, due to programmatic requirements, prospective vendors should be aware that all personnel and facilities involved in any potential SRS system design and integration effort will require at minimum DoD final SECRET clearances. White papers should name the system of record, sponsoring service or agency and responsible office, the system mission, and explain where in the development life cycle the system currently exists. Such systems may include command, control, communications, navigation, tracking, targeting, surveillance, intelligence, and others. In addition, the systems may be embedded or distributed. Respondents must describe their level of system access and briefly explain how the system satisfies the high value, hard real time, and mission critical criteria.

**WHITE PAPER SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMAT**

White papers must be submitted per the instructions here no later than 1200 ET on November 25, 2008. DARPA will employ an electronic upload process for responses to this RFI. To respond to the RFI, interested parties must complete an online cover sheet for each white paper response, which will include the information outlined below. The coversheet submission site is: <https://www.csc-ballston.com/rfi/rfiindex.asp?RFId=09-06>. Upon completion of the online cover sheet, a confirmation screen will appear, along with instructions on uploading the white paper. Since proprietary information is being accepted, each submission must be zipped and encrypted with either Winzip or PKZip. The encryption password should be emailed to the RFI mailbox at [DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil](mailto:DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil). DARPA will acknowledge receipt of submissions via email within 3 business days of the deadline. **Since authors may encounter heavy traffic on the web server, they SHOULD NOT wait until the day submissions are due to fill out a coversheet and submit the white paper!**

White papers should not exceed 5 pages, including figures. Format specifications include 12 point font, single-spaced, single-sided, 8.5 by 11 inches paper, with 1-inch margins in either Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format. NO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE RFI RESPONSE, however, proprietary information is acceptable.

1. Cover Page (1 page)
  - a. Title of paper
  - b. Organization
  - c. Respondent's technical and administrative points of contact (names, addresses, phones and fax numbers, and email addresses)
  - d. Organization CAGE code
  - e. Facility Security Officer name and phone number
2. Technical Content (up to 4 pages)
  - a. Executive summary

- b. What is the extent of organic knowledge of methods, means, technologies and state of the art regarding survivability or reliability improvement techniques?
- c. What are the current system performance reliability requirements?
- d. How is system reliability measured?
- e. How much system reliability can be compromised before the system loses mission critical functionality?
- f. How would improved system reliability be measured?
- g. How would such a system design and integration project be approached?

Respondents are encouraged to be as succinct as possible while at the same time providing actionable insight.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

DARPA invites participation from all those engaged in related research activities and appreciates responses from all capable and qualified sources including, but not limited to, universities, university-affiliated research centers, Federally-Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC), private or public companies and Government research laboratories.

## **DISCLAIMERS AND IMPORTANT NOTES**

This is an RFI issued solely for information and new program planning purposes; the RFI does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals. In accordance with FAR 15.201(e), responses to this notice are not offers and cannot be accepted by the Government to form a binding contract. Submission of a white paper is voluntary and is not required to propose to subsequent Broad Agency Announcements (if any) or research solicitations (if any) on this topic. However, white paper submissions will be used as part of the Government's market research in determining a potential source list.

DARPA will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred in responding to this RFI. **NO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE RFI RESPONSE.** Respondents are advised that DARPA is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received, or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted under this RFI.

Submissions may be reviewed by: the Government (DARPA and partners); Federally Funded R&D Centers (such as MIT Lincoln Laboratory); and Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance (SETA) contractors (such as Schafer Corporation, Science and Technology Associates, CACI International, and System Analysis, Inc.).

## **POINT OF CONTACT**

Dr. Todd Hughes, IPTO Program Manager, DARPA, Email [DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil](mailto:DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil). ANY INQUIRIES ON THIS RFI MUST BE SUBMITTED TO [DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil](mailto:DARPA-SN-09-06@darpa.mil). NO TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.